

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/789,580

Examiner

Anh T.N. Vo

Applicant(s)

CHEOK, TAN KONG

Art Unit

2861

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 4/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-39.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 February 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to an applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The following changes have been made in a subject of the application to place the claims in a condition for allowance:

Claim

In claim 19:

- line 14, changed "the" to --a--.
- line 36, inserted --the-- before "circuit".

In claim 29:

- line 5, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 6, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 7, changed "a" at second occurrence to --the--.
- line 8, changed "an" to --the--.
- line 13, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 18, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 20, changed "the" to --a--.
- line 24, deleted "dock".
- line 31, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 34, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 35, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 37, changed "a" to --the--.

In claim 32:

- line 7, changed "a" to --the--.
- line 8, changed "a" to --the--.

- line 18, changed "the" at first occurrence to --an--.
- line 23, changed "the" to --a--.
- line 29, changed "an" to --the--.
- line 39, changed "conduiting" to --circuit--.

The above change was made to avoid lack of antecedent basic problem and to place the application in better condition for allowance.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Claims 19-31 and 36-38 are allowed because none of the prior art references of record teaches an apparatus for refilling a docked printer cartridge comprising an ink draw off mode with a pump operating in a first direction to take ink from within the docked printer cartridge into an ink receiver of a docked ink replenishment cartridge, the draw off mode not involving flow via a one way valve on a circuit and an ink re-routing mode with the pump operating in the second direction to re-route ink taken into the flow system from within the docked ink replenishment cartridge in mode operation, the re-routing to (1) cycle ink in the conduit when over a threshold pressure of and via the one way threshold valve on the circuit and (2) discharge ink into the ink receiver when over a threshold pressure of a one way threshold valve on the ink draw in circuit, via one of both said one way threshold valves and/or both (1) and (2) in the combination as claimed.

Claims 32-35 and 39 are allowed because none of the prior art references of record teaches a method of refilling a printer cartridge comprising a step of halting flow of ink to an ink reservoir of the printer cartridge when (i) an ink replenishment cartridge is empty of ink, and (ii) the ink reservoir of the printer cartridge is full of ink, wherein halting of the supply of ink, when the ink reservoir of the printer cartridge is full includes one of diverting and cycling, in a circuit defined in part by at least part of an ink draw off conduit and in part by at least

part of a circuit completing conduit, ink already taken from within the ink replenishment cartridge in the combination as claimed.

CONCLUSION

Any comments considered necessarily by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Anh Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272-2262. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday from 9:30 A.M. to 7:30 P.M..

The fax number of this Group 2800 is (703) 872-9306.



ANH T.N. VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

May 6, 2005